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General Assembly

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Fifth Committee
Agenda item 124
Pattern of conferences

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

United Nations publications: enhancing cost-effectiveness in implementing legislative mandates

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "United Nations publications: enhancing cost-effectiveness in implementing legislative mandates",[1] the comments of the Secretary-General thereon,[2] the relevant chapter of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-eighth session[3] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[4]

Recalling paragraph 1 of its resolution 52/214 D of 22 December 1997, and taking into account the fact that the General Assembly has not taken any decision on the question of a cost-accounting system,

1. *Endorses* recommendations 2,[5] 3, 10 and 16-18 contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit;[1]

2. *Endorses* recommendations 4 and 6 of the Joint Inspection Unit, subject to the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination contained in paragraph 350 of its report;[3]

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[1] A/51/946 and Corr.1.

[2] A/52/685.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/53/16), chap. IV.

[4] A/53/669.

[5] The updated report of the Secretary-General on publications policy, referred to in recommendation 2, should be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

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3. *Endorses* recommendations 13 and 15 of the Joint Inspection Unit as modified by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 19 and 21, respectively, of its report;[4]

4. *Endorses* recommendation 14 of the Joint Inspection Unit, without prejudice to the traditional distribution of printed publications, taking into account paragraph 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

5. *Concurs* with paragraphs 22 and 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[6]

6. *Looks forward* to the study of the Secretary-General referred to in paragraph 43 of his report;[2]

7. *Regrets* that the provision contained in annex II, paragraph 45, of its resolution 52/220 has not been implemented, and requests the Secretary-General to implement this provision as a matter of priority and to report to it at its fifty-fifth session in the context of the item entitled "Pattern of conferences";

8. *Requests* that additional efforts be made to improve concomitantly in all six official languages the linguistic quality and content of United Nations publications;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-sixth session, a report on the implementation of the provisions of the present resolution.

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[a] Recommendations 16 and 17 of the Joint Inspection Unit should be understood as pertaining to the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.